



Weekly Information & Communication



March 28, 2016

State Staff Updates

We have a few big changes to announce. First, Leah Steinle is leaving us at the end of the week. Leah has done an amazing job with Montana WIC over the last 6 years and is now moving on to a new position which both fits her life and utilizes her ever growing skill set. We sincerely thank Leah for all of her hard work and contributions to both the administrative and retail sides of the program. See her parting note below...

Hello All – This is my last week working for Montana WIC. Over the years I have truly enjoyed getting to know and working with you to improve the health of women and children across Montana. Thank you for being so awesome. Good luck with all you do but especially EBT in 2017! It's gonna be big!!- Leah

Another vacancy to announce is Michelle Sanchez, who is no longer with Montana WIC. Michelle has dedicated nearly 25 years to the program in handling contracts and expenditures and has always been highly organized, detail oriented and a pleasure to be around. Michelle will also be very much missed!

Until these positions are filled Kevin Moore will be “acting” retail/admin supervisor and Kate Girard will be the point of contact for any contract or expenditure report related items. An email will also be sent to our contract liaisons to ensure expenditures and contracts personnel are made aware of the update.

Infrastructure Grant

Our regional office will be sending us details next week on how and when to apply for infrastructure grant money. See [this listing](#) of priorities which they will be using to prioritize and award money from the grant. Please review this document and consider submitting a request if you have a project that would fall into one of these categories and requires additional funding. The money would be awarded for this fiscal year and would expire September 2017.

The state will work to organize and submit all of the requests together, please email Kate Girard (kgirard@mt.gov) with a summary of your request and estimated amount needed **by April 4, 2016**.

April is Time Study Month

Time has gone by fast...April is already another time study month! Remember to record any and all time worked for the month of April. If you have questions, please contact Kelly at KAughney@mt.gov.

Weekly Risk Code Highlight

[Risk Code 603](#), Breastfeeding Complications or Potential Complications (Infants), is defined as a breastfeeding infant with any of the following complications or potential complications for breastfeeding:

- Jaundice
- Weak or ineffective suck
- Difficulty latching on to mother's breast
- Inadequate stooling (for age, as determined by a physician or other health care professional), and/or less than 6 wet diapers per day

April Outreach Idea

Collaborate with any organizations that have breastfeeding programs in your community. Some possible organizations to reach out to are the March of Dimes, [IBCLC's](#) (local breastfeeding coalitions), Le Leche League, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies, CLC's, or nurses/medical staff with training in this area. If possible, contact the hospital in your area to let them know about WIC and breastfeeding. If they are not working towards becoming [Baby Friendly](#), get to know what their current policies/practices are regarding breastfeeding.

Research on the Loving Support Campaign is Seeking Volunteers

Food and Nutrition Services is currently conducting research for the Loving Support Campaign Update. Hager Sharp and their sub-grantee, Doyle Research are recruiting WIC moms to participate in the mobile ethnography study phase of the formative research.

FNS has provided [more information](#) and [posters](#) you can use in your clinic for the recruitment of volunteers.

World Breastfeeding Week 2016 Theme

World Breastfeeding Week has released its 2016 theme, "[Breastfeeding: A Key to Sustainable Development](#)," commemorating the start of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This broad approach using the sustainability theme will enable the breastfeeding movement to connect with a variety of development issues over the next 15 years (2030) for maximum impact. The WBW materials will cover the main links between breastfeeding and the SDGs along five broad themes (1) nutrition/food security; 2) health, well-being, and survival; 3) environment and climate change; 4) work productivity, empowerment, and social protection; and 5) sustainable partnerships and rule of law.

Wal-Mart Community Grants

Walmart is issuing Community Impact Grants from February 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016, for organizations seeking additional funding. Check out the eligibility [information](#).

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Help us keep the distribution list updated - send e-mail address changes, additions and deletions to the WIC State Office at 1-800-433-4298.

